

(continued)

CLAIM 9. A grappling hook having:
an elongated shank defining an axis and having first
and second ends thereon;
rope receiving means at the first end thereof;
5 a grasping end having:
a second first end thereof affixed to
the second end of the shank; and
a second free end spaced from the
shank;
10 the shank and the second free end defining a hook
throat between them; and
a flexible line attached to the rope receiving
means, CONSISTING ESSENTIALLY OF:
the hook having thereon a balance point between the
15 first end of the shank and the second free end
of the grasping end, wherein
the weight of the shank between the first
end thereof and the balance point
is equal to
20 the weight of the grasping end between the
balance point and the second free end;
whereby,
after the hook has been thrown onto a
surface to which an obstruction is affixed,
25 and the shank of the hook is drawn toward
and up onto the obstruction, gravity:

(new CLAIM 9, continued):

lifts the grasping end from the surface
when the balance point of the hook
has passed the obstruction; and
30 rotates the grasping end downward about
the axis, so that the grasping end
engages the obstruction.

CLAIM 10. The grappling hook of CLAIM 9, wherein said hook
is manufactured of metal.

CLAIM 11. The grappling hook of CLAIM 9, wherein said hook
is manufactured of a molded plastic.

CLAIM 12. The grappling hook of CLAIM 9, wherein said hook
is manufactured of a thermoplastic shrunk over the flexible
line preformed into the desired shape.